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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 000367

SIPDIS

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EO 12958 DECL: 02/11/2020
TAGS PREL, ECON, EAID, EINV, CH, XA
SUBJECT: AFRICAN EMBASSIES SUSPICIOUS OF US-CHINA
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN AFRICA

REF: (A) 09 BEIJING 955 (B) 09 BEIJING 1311 (C) 09 BEIJING 2836

Classified By: Economic Minister Counselor William Weinstein. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

Summary

¶1. (C) African Embassy officials told EmbOffs that many in the African community were uncomfortable with the concept of US-China development c
Threatening the Chinese way

¶2. (C) During a February 8 lunch, Kenyan Ambassador to China Julius Ole Sunkuli said he and other Africans were wary of the U.S.-China dialogu
Lessons from the EU experience

¶3. (C) South African Minister Plenipotentiary Dave Malcolmson echoed the same reservations in a February 9 meeting. According to him, lessons
Africans don't want conditions, they want options

¶4. (C) African countries principally fear that the U.S. and other Western countries will use trilateral cooperation to try to attach governanc
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Western donor countries than infrastructure projects. He opined that although governance, peace and security are crucial to African growth, the

¶5. (C) Malcolmson echoed Sunkuli's comment that African countries also fear losing their bargaining power. China's emergence in Africa as a cc
The DFID example and recommendations for the future

¶6. (C) Malcolmson clarified that if U.S.-China cooperation leads to a real escalation of resources then it could be a positive step, but many
Comment

¶7. (C) Sunkuli and Malcolmson's comments are a potential warning sign as the USG prepares for the upcoming U.S.-China Sub-Dialogue on Africa.
HUNTSMAN